

ISTEP+ Performance Level Descriptors

Social Studies – Grade 5

Grade 5

Pass+

Pass+ students demonstrate advanced understanding of early cultures and settlements in North America and the conflicts resulting from European exploration and settlement of North America. Students describe the impact of key people and events on the founding of the United States in great detail and exhibit a superior understanding of the principles and purpose of government and its functions. *Pass+* students clearly describe economic activities in early America. *Pass+* students demonstrate advanced map reading skills and are sophisticated at recognizing the factors that affect the location of settlements.

Examples of specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 5 students scoring at the *Pass+* level include:

- Explain the consequences of the American Revolution
- Identify and explain ideas about government in key colonial documents
- Explain how the Constitution created a stronger union among the original 13 colonies
- Explain functions and relationships of the three branches of U.S. government
- Interpret meaning from primary and secondary sources
- Locate the Continental Divide and major drainage basins in the U.S.
- Tell how manufacturing and farming changed between 1600-1800
- Identify characteristics of colonial and early American economies
- Tell how changes in the economy have affected history

Grade 5

Pass

Pass students demonstrate proficient understanding of the early cultures and settlements in North America, as well as the conflicts resulting from European exploration and settlement of North America, and they describe the impact of key people and events on the founding of the United States. Students display a basic understanding of the principles and purpose of government and its functions and have a basic understanding of early economic activities in America. *Pass* students demonstrate proficient map reading skills and are able to recognize factors that affect the location of settlements.

Examples of specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 5 students scoring at the *Pass* level include:

- Explain why early Europeans explored North America and the results of those explorations
- Compare Indian groups from various North American regions
- Compare early Spanish, French, and British settlements in North America
- Explain the causes of the American Revolution
- Summarize the principles and purposes of government

- Give examples of individual rights from the Bill of Rights
- Identify regions within the U.S.
- Identify important political and physical features in the U.S.
- Explain how land affected historical events
- Predict the effect of change on supply and demand

Grade 5

Did Not Pass

Did Not Pass students demonstrate limited understanding of the early cultures and settlements in North America and the conflicts resulting from European exploration and settlement of North America, and they struggle to understand how key people and events had an effect on the founding of the United States. Students display a partial understanding of the principles and purpose of government and its functions and a limited understanding of early economic activities in America. *Did Not Pass* students possess basic map reading skills.

Examples of specific knowledge, skills, and abilities for Grade 5 students scoring at the *Did Not Pass* level include:

- Identify and describe early cultures and settlements in North America
- Recognize early explorations of major land and water routes to North America
- Identify British and American leaders
- Identify the creators of the U.S. Constitution
- Identify the three branches of government
- Describe civic responsibility
- Perform map skills, such as finding distance and direction
- Use latitude and longitude to find a location
- Describe economic activities among Native American cultures
- Explain supply and demand